aster mitigation. This satellite will also be used for computer interconnecting.

(e) Does not arise.

Outstanding Bills Against Former Ministers and MPs.

201. SHRI. SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether electricity/water charges and house rent are outstanding against a number of former Ministers and Members of Parliament; and

(b) if so, the amount outstanding against each one of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI. M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

12.00 hrs.

MEMBERS SWORN

Shri Harilal Nanji Patel (Kutch)
Shri Kanshi Ram (Etawah)

[*Translation*]

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Today, I want to raise the most serious problem of Delhi during zero hour. On the Diwali day and two days after Diwali 250 deaths occurred due to use of alcoholic drink 'Sura'. These deaths took place due to the carelessness and negligence of police department, Drug department and Excise department. The spurious drink which is being sold under the name of Ayurvedic medicine, has defamed the Ayurvedic system of Medicines. I would like to say in this connection that the officers, whose carelessness has caused the death of many people, must be punished severely. I do know that judicial enquiry has been instituted and period for its completion has been fixed as two months. I would like to say that for such as horrible incident, the judicial enquiry must be completed by 30th of November and within a fortnight the culprits must be punished...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur): In this connection two hundred people are demonstrating at present at the Boat Club...(*Interruptions*)

RE: LAW AND ORDER SITUATION IN VARANASI

[*English*]

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Ponnani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would like to draw the attention of the House to a serious and extremely disturbing situation prevailing at Banaras for the last 12 days. There have been brutal killings; arson started on the 8th of this month is continuing unabated even today; more than 25 persons have been massacred; they have been burnt and crushed to death and the dead bodies have not been given to the relatives.

All able-bodied youngmen predominantly living in Muslim area, Madan Pura have been arrested and assaulted and their limbs have been broken. It was the most pernicious thing. The entire area is under siege. No food, no medicine is available. Even milk is not being made available to children. They are dying of hunger and starvation.

I demand immediate Central intervention and deployment of Central forces as people have no faith in the State police forces. I also demand a judicial enquiry into the whole thing.

Leaders of national parties are not allowed to visit these disturbed areas. I, therefore, demand that a delegation representing all national Parties be sent immediately to assess the situation in the disturbed areas in Banaras. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I and my colleagues had visited Varanasi. Innocent people, both Hindus and Muslims were killed there. In my opinion, the persons killed were above all human beings. The State Government not only failed to save their lives but also failed to perform its duty.(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): What the Mayor has done and do tell as to what happened in Bihar.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: The incident which took place on the first day and the laxity of the administration aggravated the situation which engulfed the whole Varanasi. There, we got the opportunity to meet the people. If stern action had been taken on the first day and the administration had taken the precautionary steps, this incident would not have taken place.On the first day this was the lapse on the past of the Administration and later it did not take any action. Those heart touching incidents took place once again. The innocent people were put to death. Later on the manner in which the police and P.A.C. worked, was a painful story. Dr. Anis died in police custody. We demand that the postmortem of the body of Dr. Anis must be done again.

It is a matter of sorrow that the Central Government kept silent over the issue. Till date, the Prime Minister or the Home Minister, used to visit the places of incidents but in this case none has gone their till today. I urge upon the Central Government to give an assurance that action is going to be taken and state its clear cut policy in this regard. The Government should give an assurance, otherwise we would have no faith in the Government.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, what has happen in Banaras is another black chapter in our history. The way the situation has been tackled there has been condemned by everybody, all saner sections of the people. It is a matter which is extremely serious. Proper relief measures should be taken. Proper measures should also be taken to see that such incident does not take place again. It is essential that proper assessment should be made.

Apart from what has already been demanded, I demand that a Parliamentary team should be sent to assess the situation and ascertain the facts so that the House can know the real situation and project proper steps.

I would like to know what the Central Government is going to do in this matter, either for providing relief or to take necessary action to give protection to the people who have suffered immensely there and who are still haunted by the situation that has taken place. Therefore, I demand that immediate action should be taken and I would request you to send a Parliamentary team there.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT (Varanasi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as to nobody can deny it as whatever happened in Varanasi is unfortunate but it is to be seen in this context that not just in Varanasi but in the whole of U.P. no communal riots took place in the recent past and big functions had been held peacefully in Varanasi.

In the evening of 8th, a procession from Kali Bari was going for immersion, which has stopped. The police tried to maintain peace.

AN HON. MEMBER: There were only 6 constables.

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: Sir, your information is not correct. (*Interrup-*

[Sh. Shreesh Chandra Dikshit]

tions) Sir, I have been to Varanasi and I have observed the situation there. I think that as a responsible member of Parliament I should tell the facts to the House. This is not a political matter. This incident took place suddenly and at all that time, it could not be at apprehended that there would be disturbances in the course of the procession. Although arrangements were made, yet some people in that procession started running which created panic and some outsiders indulged in stray incidents in which six lives were lost.

AN HON. MEMBER: To which community did they belong? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): On the 8th, a number of people belonging to a particular community were killed on large scale and the administration did not do anything...(*Interruptions*)

The Government which can't project the minorities must be dismissed (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): I think he is justifying what has happened in Benaras(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Khuranaji, you please sit down.

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: Unless forced, I will not like to name the community, to which the persons killed belonged. Therefore, it has been rightly said of that the persons killed were human beings. After it, the city was calm and quiet and there were no incidents on 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th. Sir, arrests have been made (*Interruptions*)... Your information is wrong. Arrests have been made and thereafter on the 13th relaxation in curfew was given from 11 A.M. to 5 P.M. in Varanasi. But all of a sudden in the affected area of Madanpuri where this riot had broke out...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt like this.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: Suddenly around 14.30 hrs violence erupted in the presence of police force but police cannot be deputed at every house and shop. It was a conspiracy hatched by some people who had assembled at a particular spot and were prepared for attack. Those misguided elements suddenly came on the streets and attacked all those on whom they could lay their hands (*Interruptions*) Many among them lost their lives and scores of them received injuries...(*Interruptions*)...Thereafter no untoward incident was reported on 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th...(*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You have to be brief.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Rajgarh): Is he making a speech. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: After that no untoward incident was reported. It would be totally wrong to say that the administration did not take any step in this regard. Similar incidents took place on the 8th and 12th. As such I request the House to be vigilant so that nobody is able to derive any kind of political gain from this unfortunate incident as I have visited the riot torn site.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not do like this, you have to control this.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please be brief. There are other matters also. Shri Anbarasu to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANBARASU ERA (Madras Central): Due to recent cyclone and floods ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: A Parliamentary delegation should have visited the place where the riots had erupted. As per my conviction politicians should not visit the riot affected place when curfew is imposed to bring the situation under control and arrangement are being made to provide medical aid to the victims. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: That is a very important issue.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Bhaktaji, you take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you think that you are going to have a regular discussion - this way? Do you think there are no other important matters? Shri Anbarasu is highlighting an issue. You allow him a chance also.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: We also hail from Varanasi. As such our views should also be heard....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request you very humbly to give me time to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please resume your seat. When I am on may legs, you should not speak.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: If you are controlling the proceedings of the House in this fashion, then I will not be able to give an opportunity to other Members to speak. Now do not think that this is the only matter which has to be discussed on the floor.

I(nterruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu, please sit down. You are getting up even when I am standing. Please take your seats. Let me please complete.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is very unfair. You do not allow me also to complete. If you think that ths is an important matter and has to be discussed, let us discuss it by deciding it in the Business Advisory Committee.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, not like this. You have to follow the procedure. Please take your seats. Madam, let me complete. Otherwise, you have to control the House from there.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBE (Allahabad): Sir, women and children are living in a deplorable condition. In this regard, I want to take one minute to express my view point.(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: This matter has to be discussed today.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: I come from Varanasi so I should also be given an opportunity to have my say. This is my right.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You shall have to hear me. This is little too much. If each one of you want to discuss what you want you will be able to discuss nothing.

[*Translation*]

Please listen to me first. What I am going to say.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please let me complete. I will help you. Please sit down.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): You should be fair and impartial. You have permitted the Hon. Member from Varanasi to make a statement and then you are not allowing the other Members to speak.(*Interruptions*)

Why did you allow him to make a statement?

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: I have also got some importance in this House, so I should also be given an opportunity to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: Take your seat, please. All of you, be seated. I am going to tell you something.

(*Interruptions*)

MR.SPEAKER: Important Members have expressed their views here.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing Shri Indrajit Gupta to express his views. I will allow one after the other.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): We are all interested in discussing this matter. The Home Minister must come to this House and make a statement. We want to discuss this matter today and right now. We are more interested on this issue and no issue is more important than this issue. We are more interested in this issue and let the Home Minister come and make a statement.(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: If you do not allow me to speak, I will sit in the well of the house. You are listening to only one party and not the other. What is this? I may also be given an opportunity to speak.

[*English*]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I want your guidance for the future.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sonkar, from the first day onwards you have started like this. This is not correct. Please be seated.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Indrajit Gupta.

[*English*]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The Hon. Member from Varanasi gave us some advice saying that in the riot affected area, when curfew is imposed, other Members of other parties or prominent members should not try to go there. It is his advice. I want to know from you, because you have to direct us for our future course of action, whether it is a fact that while curfew was imposed in Banaras city, no politician, no M.P., no leader

of any party was given curfew passes but only Shri Dikshit was allowed. We want to know from you as to what is the future course of action.

SHRI MOHAMMED YUNUS SALEEM (Katihar): The matter is very simple. The gravity of the problem has been brought to the notice of thi house. Mr. V.P. Singh has made a suggestion that we have no confidence in the State Government and it is not able to maintain the law and order in the State. Therefore a team from the Central Government with either the Prime Minister or the Home Minister should go, visit the affected areas and take appropriate action to see that the law and order is maintained there. We want this assurance from the Central Government.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): The Home Minister should make a statement on this.(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, an Hon. member has apprised this House of the conditions prevailing in Varanasi in his own way. I want to bring to the notice of this House that when the riots were going on... (*Interruptions*)...Now they won't allow us to speak because they can't face the truth...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, the riots had started there on the 8th at 8.20 p.m. and our Hon. Member was not present in Varanasi at that time and the place where the riots took place, the riots started when the idol of Goddess Kali was being carried. I want to bring to your notice that 3 or 4 years ago there were riots at the same place and there are riots on the this occasion. It has been the most sensitive area. But the U.P. Government is silent over it. If the administration wanted, it could stop the procession at Bhadaini and if the procession had been stopped there, the riots could have been averted.(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Rajgarh): Sir, we share the concern on the matter raised by hon. Shri Sait and my friends on this side. The situation is rather grim. Only one Member of Parliament was allowed to enter this area while all senior leaders of imported politicai parties like Congress, JD and others were not allowed to enter. The points are simple. Firstly a Parliamentary Team must visit Varanasi. Secondly the role of the PAC in this riot affected area is totally condemnable. I urge upon the Home Minister and the Leader of the House to intervene and make a statement on the issue. This is very important. The minorities and the people of UP need and assurance from the Central Government in this regard.(*Interruptions*).

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: You did not pay any heed to my words.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia): It is quite unfortunate that such is the reaction of the House to such tragic matters also.(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: I have not made my point yet.(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sonkar, you are doing like this from the beginning. I will take action against you. Please sit down now. You will have to behave.

(*Interruptions*)

12.30 hrs.

At this Stage, Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri came and sat on the Floor near the Table

MR.SPEAKER: This is not correct. You will have to behave.

(*Interruptions*)

12.31 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri went back to his seat

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA (Godhra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. There is total indiscipline in the entire House. It is not a good practice.(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order during this time.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: All of us should feel ashamed of such reaction in the House on such a tragic matter. What happened on the 8th and th 13th is quite tragic. But what our friend Shri Dikshit has said is true that we should not interfere in the functioning of the administration there. I will not press for constituting a committee. I would request Shri Advani, Vijaya Raje Scindia and Shri Vajpayee o go there and ascertain personally under which law, discipline and rule people like Ajit Singh and Shri Yadav were not permitted to go there whereas Shri Dikshit was allowed to move about unobstructed. If Shri Ajitji goes there, he would be arrested, though it is his area. But there should be some consideration for the local people from other parties as well. Shri Sonkar may have objection, he also comes from Varanasi district. Shri Kailash and other people are also there. Will such incidents occur in this case also? If the administration shows such attitude, the people will suspect it. The situation in Varanasi is very bad and the action taken by the police consequent upon the riots on both these days are not only condemnable but a lowly action by mankind which no human being can support.

I am not getting the least emotional in this case. The House may decide it and three top leaders of B.J.P., Vajpayeji, Scindiaji and Advaniji should go there and then decide themselves as to what was the attitude of the police after the incident that took place on the 13th. We would accept it if they say that it was justified.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: It is an issue on which there can't be any difference of opinion, as Shri Dikshit has put it. Whether anybody is killed, be he a Hindu or a Muslim, it is a stigma on the nation. Such incidents should not take place. I would like to tell those who demand dismissal of U.P. Government that the people had given their verdict just a day or two before... (*Interruptions*) It has appeared in a national paper today... (*Interruptions*) Therefore I want to day that the dialogue should not fan communalism.(*Interruptions*)

Shri Chandra Shekhar has said just now that the matter should be considered. But in my opinion the matter should be considered taking both the groups into account. It appears from what has been said so far that only one group is at fault. I want to read out only a single sentence. It says that the riots took place there due to instigating statement by the Mayor belonging to the Congress party. Two General Secretaries of the Congress Party gave a statement that he should be expelled from the Congress and one General Secretary demanded the arrest of the Mysore belonging to his own party...(*Interruptions*)...Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter concerns Benaras. It is not proper to hold the BJP guilty for the simple reason that that party is in power there. If anybody has to say something, he should make it clear that such and such person is at fault and it is his fault. I have with me a newspaper cutting captioned, "Nashe Ke Saudagaron Ki larai mazhabi fasaad mein" There was a fight between two drunkards and wine sellers. They are responsible for the communal riots there. A solution is only possible if there is a discussion, a proper consideration of the issue in a balanced manner. If somebody wants to make a political capital out of it...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sonkar, what you should do, should be according to rules. It is

being observed that you do not follow rules.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

May I request you to please follow the rules?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you time but not like this. Please sit down.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say it very clearly that according to my information the Government of U.P. has arrested people from both groups and it has tried to control the riots(*Interruptions*) Do they, who are overwhelmed with emotions today, not know as to what happened in Bihar? Will they condemn it? They are well aware of the fact as to how people were killed in Bihar during elections. They may condemn those killings also down the House.(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT SINGH (Bagpat): Hon. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Member has said just now that there was a drunken brawl between two groups. That is not the question. The question is that the way the Government, the Administration and the police there arrested the people of a particular community and committed atrocities on them... (*Interruptions*)... I have been to that place, and I have visited jail and met the people there. The people were there with their legs broken and they were reluctant to go to hospital because they were afraid of being killed there. Shri Chandra Shekhar has said that the leaders should visit the people in the jails and collect information from them. They are men of repute, some of them are holding Ph.D. Degree and others are doctors. They do not want to go to hospital because a doctor was killed there in the presence of the police. The Chief Minister of the State or the Home Minister have not visited Benaras till today to take stock of the situation arisen out of the riots. Moreover it is the responsibility of the Central Government also. A question arises from whatever is happening in the entire country and injustice is being done to a particular community in Uttar Pradesh as to what action the Central Government is going to take in this matter? Is it realising its responsibility? Is it their opinion that whatever happened there (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Won't you say anything about Bihar?(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Will the Hon. Home Minister give us an assurance in this House that such atrocities won't recur in future?

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Sir, I do not want to blame anybody. Let me reply first. You gave me time to speak and I could not make my point.

You asked me to sit down and allowed another Member to speak. You should allow me as well. I am an old member of the House and I am well conversant with the rules of the House.

Sir, I want to submit here that when the first phase of riots was over, there was nobody from the administration, not even for namesake. The administration was taking steps as it pleased, Had it even taken premptive steps, things would have been different. Lot of policemen were injured and there was such a bonfire in the streets which is beyond description. The administration remained silent and was a mute spectator to the happenings in the days between 8th and 13th. Suddenly, on 13th the riots broke out on such a scale that the damage was far more than what happened on 8th. Score of women and innocent children were dragged in the streets and beaten mercileesly. A particular class of people were harassed miserably in the hospitals. They were not even provided medicines.

Shri Ajit Singh rightly pointed out that the people there are even afraid of going to hospitals. They are afraid of the police and the situation has deteriorated to such an

extent as is beyond description. Shri Advani was there a little before tha riots broke out and was trying to clarify the policies of tha Janasangh and the BJP. Had ha stayed there, thera would not have been any riots and it would not hava been so serious.

MR SPEAKER: It is enough. Now please sit down.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Sir, I would like to submit, through you, that the Government should make a statement on it. This is my demand...(*Interruptions*)...

AN HON. MEMBER: This is based on the report of the news papers (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RASHEED MASOOD (Saharanpur): I think you do not allow those who do not create nuisance. I had raised my hand as soon as zero hour commenced but I find that you are not allowing me even though I am silent. Does that mean that those who create nuisance...

MR SPEAKER: All right you speak.

SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: I am senior to 80 per cent Member in this House.

MR SPEAKER: Please speak. Why are you elaborating it.

SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: I do not want to go into the details as to who killed whom on 8th and who killed whom on 13th. But I merely want that a full length discussion should be held on this in the House. I would like to say here had action been taken after the incidents on 8th, riots would not have taken place on the 13th. What to talk of action even after mass killings and incidents in which people were burnt alive, no arrests were made. It was just because there is BJP Government in tha State...(*Interruptions*) . Then on 13th a doctor was killed in the presence of SP and DM. The people have lost faith inhumanity and therefore, it is the responsibility of the Government to inform the House as to what is being done for minorities.(*Interruptions*)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the incidents that took place in Varanasi on 8th and 13th are unfortunate. Whoever is guilty or culprit, should not only be condemned but also punished. Personally speaking, I feel that even if somebody is killed in an incident it gives lot of pain. The incident of 8th was all the more unfortunate because we had been making tall claims for months together that since we came to power in U.P. we had celebrated so many festivals iike Deepawali, Moharram, Eid, Dussehra, and Janmashtami peacefully. Even the Moharram festival in Lucknow, Where generally riots break out, went off peacefully without any untoward incident. It is painful because we have been making such claims. I admit that I am not in a position to reply to all those points which hava been raised here because this is not a forum for that. Had it been so, I would have got the details from the Uttar Pradesh Government. Why did you allow Shri Dikshit and did not allow Shri Ajit Singh...

[*English*]

on the face of it, I cannot justify it and I cannot defend it.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to mention here that such matters should not be discussed here. This convention should be maintained. I am not saying this because it involves my party which is in power in Uttar Pradesh. Many other parties are not happy that we are in power in Uttar Pradesh. Therefore this discussion...(*Interruptions*) I respect the sentiments expressed by Shri Chandra Shekhar, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh and other hon. Members, but at the same time I would like them to appreciate this fact that we can seek reply or clarification in this House from Shri Arjun Singh and Shri Narasimha Rao alone. Shri Kalyan Singh, the U.P. Chief Minister is not here to clarify. Had he been a Member of this House he would have explained the position. Yes, if notice had been given to me about the discussion I would have collected information on all the

aspects before hand...(*Interruptions*) I only know this much that between 8th and 13th the Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh met me and gave me an invitation to a marriage function. I casually asked him about the incident in Varanasi and he dascribed tha entira incident and the way stones were hurled at the procession etc. He also said that the Chief Minister had ordered him to be tough with with the rioteers irrespective of whether they were Hindus or Muslims. The Chief Minister had asked him to take action without any fear...(*Interruptions*) I was satisfied and I also advised him to follow the same course because I believe that riots are a slur on this country and more so in the States where BJP is in power. What I was going to say in this regard, but I was interrupted all the times it was that I was going through the daily *'Janasatta'* but I failed to understand this aspects. It seems to be a sad state of affairs where the Mayor of the city indulges in these things and the General Secretary of the party had to demand his resignation. Therefore, I fully agree with Shri Chandra Shekhar that we should rise above party politics in discussing such matters and questions endangering the unity and integrity of the country. The reason for levelling charges against us, possibly may also aggravate the situation and the Congress may have to pay a heavy price for this and possibily we may win 10 seats out of 17 seats and congress may not be able to win even a single seat. I will not be suffering politically but the country will suffer. Sir, I fully agree that in this matter...(*Interruptions*) Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like that we should follow the conventions in this regard that the matter is primarily of Uttar Pradesh...(*Interruptions*) The entire House is agitated. Convention has been that the House demands a statement to be made by the Home Minister or the Prime Minister and they seek time to get information from the State Government concerned and then it is discussed in the House. If this convention is followed in this case also, I have no objection.

[*English*]

MR. SPEKAER: Yes, Mr. Arjun Singh. I am sorry, I have obstructed you too many times. But this time, I will not.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: I hope you will give us an assurance that appropriate action will be taken against the Government of Uttar Pradesh to maintain law and order(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Mr. Pathak, you always indulge in cross talking. I have been watching you. It is not good for you and it is not good for anybody.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI ARJUN SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been seeing the feelings of the Hon. Members on this very tragic incident that took place in Varanasi. I am at least assured to some extent that the hon. Leader of the Opposition has also condemned it. But what has been said around this House is something which goes much deeper, which is something much more important from the national point of view than an incident which unfortunately happens in one or other part of the country, and that is what I think the House must address itself to. Unless we are prepared to come face to face with certain trends, certain reactions or promotion of certain ideas which do not coincide with the larger national interest, our attempt to appropriation blame or to protect somebody would be of only academic interest. It cannot serve the purpose of the nation.

Therefore, I think we should take this matter much more seriously than as only as an incident that occured in a place where a certain party Government happens to be in power and thus consider it as that Government's failure. I am not apportioning blame but the fact remains that for some years the entire country has almost been held to ransom by certain ideas, beliefs and actions which go totally counter to the national interest. Varanasi is only a manifestation of that Let us not forget it. I am very sad that Advani Ji had to say, perhaps in passing, that these things will help us politically and we will get some benefit out of it. I want to say...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I said that the way allegations are being levelled against us, would not make us suffer politically, but the country would ultimately suffer.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: That is what I am saying.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I will not gain politically.

[*English*]

I am not saying that. I am saying that if you try to utilise it for partisan ends, you will not get any political benefit out of it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I only wanted to say that even a passing reference to the feelings that charges levelled against a party would benefit any party, are indicative of the psyche which has set the country aflame. The need of the hour is that all the parties in the country should desist from making political mileage out of such issues. So far as this incident is concerned we are seized of the matter and agree with the sentiments expressed by all the Members. I do not want to raise a finger against any particular party but I think there is concensus in the House, that all the information on this incident must be divulged and thereafter a discussion should be held and the Government should act according to the will of the House.

[*English*]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: You give the assurance.(*Interruptions*)

The Home Minister will come with a Statement. You can discuss it. In the course of debate he will say whatever he has to.(*Interruptions*)

SHR ARJUN SINGH: That is what I am saying. He will come with a Statement.(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Anbarasu's statement is going on record.

SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Due to the recent cyclone and floods in Tamil Nadu, heavy damage to property and life has been caused. Roads and bridges have been destroyed. Standing crops worth about more than Rs. 5 crores have been washed away in different districts in Tamil Nadu in particular in Tanjore. In the same way, South Arcot, North Arcot and Chengai Anna district were very badly affected by floods.

The Madras city was also almost drowned in the floods. I personally visited Madras city and walked in the waistdeep flood water in the streets of Madras. Thousands of slum-dwellers are rendered homeless and their tenements have been washed away in floods. Nearly hundred people have died due to the floods.

Hence I appeal to the Prime Minister to visit Tamil Nadu for an on-the-spot study to assess the heavy loss and damage caused and further appeal to the Prime Minister to grant at least Rs. 25 crores as ex-gratia amount for taking up immediate relief and rehabilitation measures. Further I appeal to the Prime Minister to grant Rs. 1 lakh each to the next of kin who have lost their lives in the floods.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had given a notice. I may be allowed to speak(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing.

(*Interruptions*)*

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct. You are a senior Member.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: What he is saying is not going on record.

(*Interruptions*)*

SHRI ANBARASU ERA: If the Prime Minister is pre-occupied, I appeal through you to send a Parliamantary Delegation or an official delegation to Tamil Nadu for providing relief to the affected people. In Madras alone, thousands of people were rendered homeless.(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention to a very important mattar.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record. You can coma to my Chamber.

(*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV (Machchlipatnam): We have not been given any chance.

MR. SPEAKER: This is exactly what I am trying to do you please take your seats. I am trying to facilitata.

Yesterday, I had a discussion with the Leaders of the House. Today all the Members present in the House are watching as to how we will be able to proceed with the matters that are before the House. That matter which cannot be discussed is being forced for discussion on the House and that matter which has coma before the House with proper notice is not being discussed.

May I request the Leaders of different Parties to talk to their Members and if any one Member of your party has to say something, you select your Member and let him have his say. There are many matters which have to be discussed. I cannot allows even or eight Members from one Party to have their say according to their will. It has to be decided. Moreover we have to see what can be discussed in the House and what cannot be discussed in the House. If you are not helping the House itself to conduct the business, well, nobody will be able to talk. You have the Members from Andhra Pradesh. They want to speak about the rainfall over there. You have the Members from Tamil Nadu. The matter is also important. They shall also have to be given the chance.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: I am the affected the person.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI (Kodarma): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Atrocities are increasing and you are not allowing us to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I am trying to give you a chance

[*English*]

I am trying to help you. Why don't you understand. If every time you are getting up, I cannot allow you like this. I am exactly trying to help you. I am trying to find tima. Here is a Member who wants to speak and he is almost forcing his right to speak. You have a right to speak. he has a right to speak. They should be allowed to speak.

All the matters which you have in mind are really important but we have to fix priorities. We have to take into consideration the others rights also to speak. Let us not monopolise. I do understand you anxiety and

*Not recorded.

agony also. In certain matters, our hearts are full of agonies and in certain matters there is anxiety but we have to pick and choose the forum, we hava to pick and choose the method and we have to pick and choose the speaker, only then, we will be able to do that. If you do not help the House in conducting the business, then some people will be able to speak and others will not be able to speak. The Members of the ruling party would say that they are not given the right to speak. They do have also problems. You have seen that I have allowed almost all the Members of the Opposition Parties to speak and not the ruling party to speak.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: They do not want to speak. What can be done?

MR. SPEAKER: They too have a right to speak. And if the hon. Members from Andhra Pradesh behave like this, how can I conduct like this? This is the first day. You are full of problems in your mind. I can understand your anxiety. I sympathise with you and I would try to find a method by which you will be able to discuss this matter. We are here to help each other; we are not here to shut your mouth or not allow you to speak. But, please, you give a little latitude for addressing the things in such a fashion that you yourself will be able to do it.

I am pleading, I am requesting the Leaders of the House and Leaders of the Members from different Parties to speak to their Members, Pleas. Now, unless you help, we would not be able to help ourselves.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Most humbly I request you that now the Government has said that they will come out with a statement and an assurance, you use your good offices to see that they should come out with a statement and an assurance today, because you have seen the anxiety of the House. Even Members from the Ruling Party have also made this demand. If you could ask the Government to come out with a statement and an assurance, it would help all of us.

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever you say will be very much borne in mind and it will be given due weight. Well, I have no objection if they do it. But, then, please, I cannot force them to say anything. The Home Minister probably is not here.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): Actually, what I said was that we will ascertain the facts and then the Home Minister will make a statement. How can I say today?(*Interruptions*) He will make a statement very soon.(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: Tomorrow is a holiday.

MR. SPEAKER: Now it is in your interest. If you had brought it with a proper notice, I would have given him a notice, I would have asked him to be present in the House. Your motion could have been admitted. Now it is coming without any notice and I cannot also force him like that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It happened on the 8th and the 13th. Today, we are on the 20th. Still they do not have information?

MR. SPEAKER: They may be having information.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not completed; I am on my legs. Please sit down now. Mr. Basu Deb Acharia, please also sit down. I am not speaking from the benches, you know. It is only today that I had an opportunity to make a long speech from the Chair here. I am not speaking; I am trying to facilitate your speaking and you hall have to help each other.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: We will fully

cooperata with you. We are interested to know whether the Home Minister will make a statement today or not.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Jena, you are not following the rules. You are forcing your will only on me.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: We are interested to know whether the Home Minister will make a statement today or not.

MR. SPEAKER: He said, "Very soon."

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government should give a categorical assurance whether a statement would be made today.(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): In Andhra Pradesh, the Ruling Party has made mockery of democracy and the election process by rigging the election, by utilising the police force, capturing booths and throwing bombs. I demand that an enquiry should be held be the Election Commission and to hold repoll in all those constituencies.(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We have decided to have launch today. The House stands adjourned for lunch to meet at 2.05

13.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then Adjourned for Lunch till Five Minutes Past Fourteen of the Clock

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The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Seven Minutes Past fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair.*]

MEMBER SWORN

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH (Vidisha):

[*English*]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, when the working classes in Punjab are fighting against the divisive forces there...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Achariaji, we have got a system in this House. Immediately after the question Hour is over, some very important and relevant matters will be raised. And afterwards when that is over, we will go to the other subjects.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This cannot be a good precedent. Let us follow certain principles.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I received a telephone call from Sangrur, Punjab, today. Yesterday there was a police firing and a number of workers were injured.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will take it up tomorrow.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The Secretary of the Union of the FCI employees was killed.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down. I will convince you. Kindly take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is true that some important matters such as flood havoc ought to have taken up in the Zero Hour. I know that Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu were very much affected. But unfortunately some other subjects consumed lot of time in the Zero Hour. So, this matter can be taken up day after tomorrow, as usual. Now we shall go to the next item.

(*Interruptions*)